

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

OFFICE: 15, CORNER OF NASSAU AND FULTON STS.

VOLUME XIX. No. 177.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—DICK, THE NEW
BOY—UNION SQUARE.

BOULEVARD THEATRE, Broadway—THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE
DAME—THE THREE JACK SHEPHERDS.

NIBLO'S, Broadway—THEY ROSE—GRAND DIVERTISSEMENT—GREEN MONSTER.

NATIONAL THEATRE, Chatham street—THE ROYAL
THEATRE—GREEN MONSTER.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—Afternoon and Evening—ROSE
OF THE FAMILY.

CHRISTY'S AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE, 472 Broadway—
THE AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE—THE AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE.

WOODS' MINSTREL HALL, 444 Broadway—THE AMERICAN
MINSTREL HALL—THE AMERICAN MINSTREL HALL.

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 339 Broadway—THE
AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE—THE AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE.

FRANCON'S HIPPODROME—JANES SQUARE.

New York, Wednesday, June 28, 1854.

To the Public.

The New York Herald has now the largest circulation
of any daily paper in Europe or America.

The Daily Herald circulates nearly fifty thousand
sheets per day.

The Weekly Editions—published on Saturday and Sun-
day—reach a circulation of nearly twenty thousand sheets
per week.

The aggregate issue of the Herald establishment is
about four hundred thousand sheets per week, or over
twenty millions of sheets per annum.

Mails for Europe.

THE NEW YORK HERALD—EDITORIAL FOR EUROPE.
The Royal mail steamship Arabia, Capt. Harrison,
will leave Jersey City this day, at 12 o'clock, for Liver-
pool.

The European mails will close in this city at half past
two o'clock in the morning.

THE WEEKLY HERALD, (printed in French and English),
will be published at half past nine o'clock in the morn-
ing. Single copies in wrappers, sixpence.

Subscriptions and advertisements for any edition of the
New York Herald will be received at the following places in
Europe:—

LIVERPOOL: John Hunter, No. 3 Paradise street.

LONDON: ... Edwards, Strand, No. 17 Cornhill.

PARIS: ... Livingston, Wells & Co., 8 Place de la Bourse.

The News.

FROM WASHINGTON.

In the Senate yesterday, the bill allowing the
State of Maryland interest on the sum of money
advanced to the general government during the war
of 1812, passed by a vote of thirty-six to seven.

The principal of the debt has been paid long since. The
House bill changing the time of the meeting of
Congress from December to November, was taken
up, and, after some debate, rejected. The ground
for the rejection of this measure is, that the elections
for members of Congress take place during the
month of November in nearly all the States, and it
is deemed essential that the people's servants should
be at home on such occasions.

In the House a resolution to terminate debate on
the Ten Million bill at noon to-day, was adopted by
ninety-four yeas to fifty-eight nays. This affords
an indication of the feeling in regard to this measure.
The discussion in Committee of the Whole was
carried on with much animation. Mr. Haven made
a forcible speech on the refusal of the administration
to produce the correspondence had between the
governments of the two countries.

The proceedings were diversified by Mr. Richardson,
who took occasion to allude to a recent statement
in a New York daily paper, to the effect that a fraud
had been committed by him and others by inserting
the Clayton proviso in the Nebraska bill.

Our special despatch from the capital is exceedingly
interesting.

THE WEATHER.

Yesterday was one of those burning, sweltering
days so prolific of sun strokes. The thermometer
rose to 87 in the shade, and but for a refreshing
shower, which somewhat moderated the intense
heat, it would have been perfectly unendurable.
Such weather as this is rather alarming, when we
remember that the cholera is among us, and that it
is just in such weather its effects are most fatal.

Let us have the streets thoroughly cleaned, let
plenty of lime be sprinkled along the gutters, and
let all the dead dogs, cats, pigs, cows, horses and
offal be removed as soon as possible. The Health
Department must wake from their torpor and go
earnestly to work, if they would not have our city
decimated.

IN THE SUPREME COURT YESTERDAY, Judge Roosevelt
presiding, an order was made directing the Sheriff
to summon a jury to hear evidence in the case of
Mr. Dunlap, an alleged lunatic.

An interesting report of the proceedings of the
meeting of the Alumni of Columbia College, held
yesterday afternoon, relative to the approaching
celebration, is unavoidably crowded out.

The body of Capt. Jewett, late master of the ship
Hendrick Hudson, who was upset while in a small
boat on Thursday last, and drowned, was recovered
yesterday. It was found floating in the East River
by two boatmen. A reward of five hundred and
fifty dollars had been offered for its recovery. The
Coroner held an inquest on the body.

Flour continued dull yesterday, without change
in prices, with more doing for export. Wheat was dull
while corn was one to two cents lower. Freight
to Liverpool were firm, and 5,000 a 6,000 bbls. flour
were engaged at 2s. per barrel. Cotton was about
the same. Middling uplands were quoted at 9c.
per lb.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A telegraphic despatch states that it was rumored
in Buffalo yesterday that a collision had taken place
on the Great Western Railroad, in Canada, occasion-
ing the death of a number of persons. The
report was generally discredited.

The recent political excitement in New Hamp-
shire has led to a dreadful state of things. We
learn that yesterday a committee was appointed by
the Legislature to investigate charges made against
the coalition, of attempting to bribe members, and
of dragging their liquor. To what a state of deprav-
ity has free soilism and anti-Nebraskaism descended!

The bribery part of the charge might have been
winked at in this case, as it has on many other
occasions, but dragging the liquor of an administra-
tion democrat is a serious thing, and should be
rigidly inquired into. What is to become of the
constitution and the purity of the elective franchise
if such a condition of affairs is allowed to continue?

We publish elsewhere a biographical sketch of the
distinguished vocalist Madame Sontag, who died of
cholera, at the city of Mexico, on the 18th inst.

THE COURT.

In the legal intelligence will be found a report of
the eighth day's proceedings in the Walker divorce
case, the interest in which seems to have greatly in-
creased since the commencement of the examina-
tion of witnesses for the defence. Criminal and re-
vocation seem to be the order of the day. The
court is densely crowded with spectators, notwith-
standing the extreme heat of the weather, and
amongst the auditors there is a goodly sprinkling
of ladies.

In the Supreme Court a verdict of \$350 damage
was rendered in a young man for injuries sustained
by the bite of a dog. This should be a wholesome
warning to pet owners. Vicious animals
should not be permitted to go abroad, and all descrip-
tions of the canine species should be muzzled at
this period of the year.

An action for collision was commenced in the
United States District Court against the steamboat
Empire State. Decisions, which will also be found
in our legal intelligence, were rendered in the Su-
preme and Superior Courts.

Revival of the Slavery Agitation in Congress.

The Missouri Question—Verdict of a
Great Independent Union Party.

Mr. McKim's new free soil whig Senator
from Massachusetts, in a petition from citizens
of Boston, for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave
law, has reopened the agitation of the Missouri
question in the United States Senate. The de-
bate upon that petition, the other day, between
Messrs. Jones, of Tennessee, Rockwell, and
Sumner, of Massachusetts, Butler, of South
Carolina, and others, was pretty well up to
that pitch of sectional exasperation which char-
acterized the memorable Congressional agitation
of 1850.

It was but a few weeks ago that Mr. Jones
ridiculed the idea that a storm was brewing
among the anti-slavery elements of the North;
and now he has become the veritable Cassandra
of the Senate. The mantle of Gen. Foote,
(late of Mississippi, but now in California,) appears
to have fallen upon the shoulders of Mr. Jones.
He tells us that "the Union could not be
preserved one day after the repeal of the
Fugitive Slave law," but then we are con-
soled with the positive assurance that it never
will be repealed. The abolitionists, then, may
rave on; Mr. Charles Sumner, in the face of
his oath to support the constitution of the
United States, may daily repeat the cry that
he is not a dog, that he should execute the fu-
gitive law; the anti-slavery societies may over-
whelm the Senate with their petitions for re-
peal; but, having the assurance of Mr. Jones
that there will be no repeal, upon that point of
assault, at least, the Union is secure.

But unfortunately the repeal of the Fugitive
Slave law is but an incidental item in the gen-
eral account of this present agitation of the dis-
union question. Causes behind the fugitive
law, and behind the Nebraska bill, lie at the
bottom of the mischief. The demoralizing
spoils party of the administration affords the
key to this portentous excitement revived be-
tween the North and the South. The desperate
exigencies of the administration demanded
some such desperate expedient as the Nebraska
bill to restore the President and his cabinet,
their policy and their party, to the lost confidence
of the South and of the constitutional Union men
of the North. But having in advance demor-
alized and destroyed the unity and the efficiency
of the triumphant party of 1852, the adminis-
tration is powerless to reunite its scattered
fragments, even upon the constitutional prin-
ciples of the Nebraska bill; and hence the dan-
ger to the peace of the country.

The danger is not in the Fugitive Slave law,
where Mr. Jones places it; but in the absence
of any great national, homogeneous, conserva-
tive Union party, covering all sections of the
republic. Mr. Jones virtually confesses that
between the Southern and Northern whigs
the rupture is complete. He admits the evil, as
far as his party is concerned. But we have
no corresponding confession from Mr. Butler.
Mr. Mason, Mr. Pettit, or any other Senator
of the democratic side, in reference to the
broken-backed condition of the late national
democracy. None of them, however, can put
in any valid claim as champions of the consti-
tutional rights of the South until their own
position is a little more satisfactorily defined.
Do they belong to that pie-bald dominant demo-
cratic party of which the Charleston Mercury
is the organ in South Carolina, the Union the
organ at Washington, and of which, too, the New
York Evening Post and the Albany Atlas are
the leading organs in the great conservative
State of New York? The contempt of Mr. But-
ler for Charles Sumner smacks of waggery,
while the Van Buren's are admitted to the or-
thodox communion table; and the wrath of Mr.
Pettit against the free soil Senator from Mas-
sachusetts is all moonshine, as long as the
party of the Buffalo platform are counted
among "the Latter Day Saints" of the demo-
cratic church. In the teeth of an unholy, in-
congruous spoils coalition like this, all profes-
sions of constitutional consistency, or of devo-
tion to State rights, or to the Union, are but
drops in the crucible of public opinion. Neither
parties nor partisans can maintain their ground
in the profession of Union and constitutional
principles, while they are parties to a league
with traitors and dissension agitators, through
the corrupting agencies of the spoils.

The debate in the Senate upon the Boston
petition for the repeal of the fugitive law does
not touch the real merits of the general issue.
It may all be well enough for bold and fearless
Senators to seize upon every occasion for the
expression of their abhorrence and disgust for
the treasonable principles of such men as Sum-
ner and Seward. They are fair game, and there
is no peril incurred in assailing them. This,
however, is but a paltry business, when the
blows, to be efficient, should be struck in
another quarter. Nothing is gained by these
continued and violent Senatorial denunciations
of Seward and Sumner, traitors to the Union
though they may be, when the real causes of
the mischief in hand lie nearer home. It is
like a man with a bundle of contraband goods
under his arm, crying "stop thief!" in hot pur-
suit of a poor devil with nothing in his posses-
sion but a bad name.

The Senate of the United States, in the pre-
sentation of the Boston petition have discovered
that the anti-slavery agitation is revived in the
North. Unquestionably this agitation rests
upon the seditious principles of Seward, Sum-
ner, and their associates in the cause of free
soil and abolitionism. Yet, a little more than
one short year ago, the country was quiet, there
was no agitation, and no apprehensions of
agitation. The people of both sections
cherished the delusive idea that the national
Union principles upon which Gen. Pierce was
elected would be faithfully carried out—that
free soilism and abolition secession, and all
disunionists, whether from the Buffalo plat-
form or from the Nashville convention, would
be officially repudiated by the administration;
and that the course of the executive in his ap-
pointments, his policy, and his party, would
be inflexibly consistent with the governing
Union principles of the election which had
brought him into power. Experience has de-
molished these extravagant expectations. The
administration and its policy and party have
been dictated by a coalition of free soilers and
secessionists. Its original adherents upon prin-
ciples are outside the camp, and its established
bonds of cohesion are "the cohesive power of
the public plunder."

There is no national whig party—there is
no national democratic party, upon principles.
The administration party is limited to the
spoils, for neither the Missouri compromise
nor the Nebraska bill is made the test of party
allegiance; and while the Washington Union
repudiates the Know Nothings, the lesser
organs of the Cabinet are free to denounce the
Irish Catholics, without reserve or limitation.
At this crisis of the utter demoralization and

The Spanish Decrees Respecting Cuba.

We publish elsewhere the text of the decrees
of the Queen of Spain respecting slavery in
Cuba, promulgated in March last, and just laid
before the British Parliament. Lord Howden
seems to have regarded them as a triumph for
British interests. Other commentators, as well
in England as in this country, have inter-
preted them as equivalent to a commence-
ment of Africanization, or in plainer words,
as an indication of the establishment of
an order of things under which slavery in
Cuba would gradually become extinct, and a
large free colored population be settled on the
island. In this persuasion, many statesmen
have viewed them with distrust and hostility.
We all remember the Spanish treat of surren-
dering the island to the blacks rather than sell-
ing it to us; with this intimation fresh in our
memory, it is natural that we should at all
events watch with some jealousy the introduc-
tion of any change in the condition of the slaves
now held by the creole planters. That jealousy
is heightened by a knowledge of the fact that
the principles asserted in the decrees have been
further consolidated in a treaty just signed by
the representative of Great Britain and the
Spanish government. The text of the treaty has
not yet reached us, and we are therefore
unable to state positively whether it contem-
plated any actual surrender of Spanish author-
ity within the island to a foreign power, or
whether it simply looks to the final suppres-
sion of the slave trade. The latter is the
more probable hypothesis, as the decrees
upon which the treaty is based, have no refer-
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Howden's antecedents, and the past tenor of
British policy with regard to Cuba are alone
sufficient to clothe with suspicion any measures
which are pronounced advantageous by the one
and consistent with the other.

The change to be wrought by the decrees has
been rendered necessary, we are told, by the
scarcity of laborers in Cuba, which has hitherto
compelled the illegal prosecution of the slave
trade. It being now resolved to suppress that
traffic, and to put an end to further importa-
tions of slaves, the Spanish government proposes
to remedy the scarcity of laborers by encourag-
ing the importation of Spanish, Chinese and
Yucatanese colonists, and by compelling the
owners of slaves to employ them in agricul-
tural labor. The means by which it is proposed
to attain this last mentioned object are complex
and varied; they will be found detailed in the
exposition of the Spanish minister. Elaborate
provisions are made by a special decree for the
importation of colonists from Spain, China and
Yucatan, and their employment on an extensive
scale is obviously contemplated by the govern-
ment. In addition to these, means are taken to
provide against the landing of negroes from
Africa by registering all the slaves on the
island, and declaring every negro free whose
name does not appear in the registers as a
slave. These, in brief, the leading points of
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The plan of the slave registers has been ex-
amined on a former occasion, and its defects
shown. It is obvious that, if, as is probable,
the British consular authorities are allowed to
exercise any supervision over the practical
working of the system, cases will constantly
occur where the loss, destruction, or fraudulent
suppression of the registers will lead to the
forced manumission of negroes lawfully held in
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an extensive scale into Cuba. But whether
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So far as we can judge, there is thus far no
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tural labor. The means by which it is proposed
to attain this last mentioned object are complex
and varied; they will be found detailed in the
exposition of the Spanish minister. Elaborate
provisions are made by a special decree for the
importation of colonists from Spain, China and
Yucatan, and their employment on an extensive
scale is obviously contemplated by the govern-
ment. In addition to these, means are taken to
provide against the landing of negroes from
Africa by registering all the slaves on the
island, and declaring every negro free whose
name does not appear in the registers as a
slave. These, in brief, the leading points of
the decrees.

The plan of the slave registers has been ex-
amined on a former occasion, and its defects
shown. It is obvious that, if, as is probable,
the British consular authorities are allowed to
exercise any supervision over the practical
working of the system, cases will constantly
occur where the loss, destruction, or fraudulent
suppression of the registers will lead to the
forced manumission of negroes lawfully held in
slavery. It is also likely that no complete re-
gister of the entire negro population of the island
will ever be perfected; and thus an opportunity
will be afforded the British overseers to claim
freedom for slaves whose names have been ac-
cidentally or wilfully withheld from the regis-
ter. Every practical man will at once per-
ceive how difficult it will be to make a com-
plete register; this difficulty has doubtless been
foreseen by Lord Howden, and is probably one
of the advantages he sees in the system. It
will undoubtedly help the cause of abolition in
a very material degree; and when the Count of
San Luis says that it is "not morally possible
to abolish slavery" in the island, and at the
same time recommends the registering of the
slaves, he shows himself to be deficient in judg-
ment and foresight. Should his scheme ever
be carried into actual effect, he would soon
perceive how widely inconsistent his acts have
been with his professions.

How far the importation of colonists or
cooled will supply the deficiency of laborers and
compensate for the cessation of the slave trade,
time will show. There are many obstacles in
the way of the introduction of coolie labor on
an extensive scale into Cuba. But whether
Spaniards, coolies, or Yucatanese can be had
on the terms proposed, or not, we confess that
we see very little difference, and certainly no
advantage in the substitution of the plan of
coolie importation for the old slave trade. For
all practical purposes, the colonists provided
for by the decrees are to be slaves. They re-
nounce the exercise of all civil rights which
are incompatible with the fulfillment of the ob-
ligations they incur," that is to say, all their
civil rights whatsoever. They cannot marry
without the consent of their master. Their
children follow their condition, and their fa-
thers exercise no parental power over them in
opposition to the power of their master. They
may be transferred and sold, like slaves, with
this single difference that husband and wife
may not be separated from each other or from
their children under twelve years of age. They
may redeem themselves at certain seasons, it is
true; but the conditions are such that it is next
to impossible that they could ever be fulfilled.
They may acquire property; but as their mas-
ters are authorized to work them twelve hours
a day, there is little chance of their being able
to do anything of the kind. In case of desert-
tion, they may be pursued, caught and returned
to their masters just as slaves are. They can-
not demand means to enable them to return to
their own country. They may be punished by
fine and imprisonment by their masters, without
recourse to the legal tribunals of the country.

So far as we can judge, there is thus far no
essential difference between this and many slave
codes. The consent on which the contract is
originally based, will obviously be a mere
nugatory form, where one of the parties is a
shrewd slave dealer and the other a poor Chi-
nese or coolie. The only practical difference
between the colonist and the slave will be that
the former, who is a slave for a fixed period,
will be discharged and left to starve and die
when he grows old and infirm, while the latter
is always provided for at the expense of his
master until death relieves him of the burthen.

If the cause of humanity, for which Lord How-
den professes so much zeal, is served by a
change of this nature, our notion of the senti-
mentality differs widely from his.

We have yet to see whether these decrees
will be followed by any practical change or
not. Until the registering of the slaves begins

The Spanish Decrees Respecting Cuba.

We publish elsewhere the text of the decrees
of the Queen of Spain respecting slavery in
Cuba, promulgated in March last, and just laid
before the British Parliament. Lord Howden
seems to have regarded them as a triumph for
British interests. Other commentators, as well
in England as in this country, have inter-
preted them as equivalent to a commence-
ment of Africanization, or in plainer words,
as an indication of the establishment of
an order of things under which slavery in
Cuba would gradually become extinct, and a
large free colored population be settled on the
island. In this persuasion, many statesmen
have viewed them with distrust and hostility.
We all remember the Spanish treat of surren-
dering the island to the blacks rather than sell-
ing it to us; with this intimation fresh in our
memory, it is natural that we should at all
events watch with some jealousy the introduc-
tion of any change in the condition of the slaves
now held by the creole planters. That jealousy
is heightened by a knowledge of the fact that
the principles asserted in the decrees have been
further consolidated in a treaty just signed by
the representative of Great Britain and the
Spanish government. The text of the treaty has
not yet reached us, and we are therefore
unable to state positively whether it contem-
plated any actual surrender of Spanish author-
ity within the island to a foreign power, or
whether it simply looks to the final suppres-
sion of the slave trade. The latter is the
more probable hypothesis, as the decrees
upon which the treaty is based, have no refer-
ence to foreign authority in Cuba. But Lord
Howden's antecedents, and the past tenor of
British policy with regard to Cuba are alone
sufficient to clothe with suspicion any measures
which are pronounced advantageous by the one
and consistent with the other.

The change to be wrought by the decrees has
been rendered necessary, we are told, by the
scarcity of laborers in Cuba, which has hitherto